

Chair Stopper believed that community meetings tended to attract activists, and these survey results were closer to a sample of the general population.

Public Comments.

No one from the public wished to comment on this topic.

After general discussion, no action was taken.

City responses to HCD Draft Housing Element comments

Dave Barquist, RBF Principal Community Planner, reviewed the comments that had been received from the State, and the responses that had been provided by the City. The spirit and intent of the Housing Element that had originally been submitted to the State remained; the responses merely added clarification.

A question was asked about the wording of the response in Policy Action 1.1, and Michelle Kou, RBF Community Planner, explained that staff planned to reword the section to add more clarity.

Vice Chair Griffin suggested adding language encouraging the identification of grant opportunities to Policy Actions 1.6 and 1.7. Staff and the Committee agreed with the suggestion.

Discussion was held regarding Policy Action 4.4, and whether it was necessary to specify zones, could it be changed to commercial zones, could they just say “residential” or “commercial” zones. Mr. Barquist explained the zoning listed would need to accommodate the housing requirements if a developer wanted to build; the City was not required to actually build the housing.

Public Comments.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to accept staff’s comments, with the changes mentioned above.

Working draft of General Plan Land Use Focus Areas

Mr. St. Paul explained the Draft Land Use Focus Areas map that was provided to the Members. Staff was requesting the Members to look at the map and the questionnaire, and return the completed questionnaire to staff prior to the October 29, 2008 meeting. Mr. Zelinka additionally explained that the provided map was a starting point and staff was looking for input from the Committee and community, and then would use the information to develop land use alternatives, specific plans, etc.

No one from the public wished to comment on this topic.

After general discussion, no action was taken.

Community Open House – October 29, 2008 – Senior Center

Mr. St. Paul invited the Committee Members to the Community Open House where the Land Use Focus Areas would be further explored with people from the community.

Public Comments

Janet McNeil questioned how the public would be invited to the Community Open House, and Mr. St. Paul responded that he would contact schools, churches, post in on the City's website and the cable channel. He also asked the Committee and public for any other suggestions they may have.

Ginger Britt commented on the long lead time needed by the schools to disseminate information.

Kathy Dalton asked when the Committee would be talking about specific topics, such as historic preservation.

Matt Leslie expressed concern with the amount of public outreach being done, and suggested advertising at the train station.

Mr. St. Paul explained the many ways he had tried to get public involvement. Mr. Zelinka commented that the broader the issue, the harder it was to get the public involved. When a discussion was project specific, the public usually got involved.

AGENDA FORECAST

The next regularly scheduled General Plan Advisory Committee meeting will be November 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. A meeting is also scheduled for November 17, 2008.

STAFF/COMMITTEE COMMUNICATION

Mr. St. Paul and Mr. Zelinka discussed the General Plan organization and the need to make it an integrated plan that would be used by all departments, not just the Planning Department. Mr. St. Paul reviewed the GPAC's anticipated schedule.

Mr. Zelinka explained that the Community Development Department had been working on creating a vision statement for their Department. This statement would be used during performance evaluations and employees would be able to demonstrate how they had contributed towards the department's vision.

Chair Stopper expressed a desire to have a meeting in early 2009, and it was decided a meeting would be scheduled at the November 3, 2008 GPAC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Stopper adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.